Insurgents, hide-outs in neighbouring countries

825. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the existence of hide outs/camps of insurgent outfits in the neighbouring foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government of India has taken up the matter with the concerned countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGHUPATHY): (a) and (b) The Government is aware about the existence of camps of North East Indian insurgent groups in Bangladesh, Myanmar and Bhutan, which are being used by them for safe heavens, sanctuary, training purposes and launching of operations against Indian civilians and Security forces.

(c) and (d) The Government has taken up the matter with the Governments of Bangladesh, Myanmar and Royal Government of Bhutan. The Governments of Bangladesh and Myanmar have assured that they will not allow these elements to use their territory for activities prejudicial to the interests of India. The Royal Government of Bhutan had launched operations in December 2003, against Indian insurgent groups in their territory and destroyed their 30 camps.

Status of the amendment of Article 371 of the Constitution

826. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government had sent any proposal seeking amendment of Article 371 of the Constitution to remove regional imbalance and to promote comprehensive development of Hyderabad-Karnataka region;

(b) if so, what is the present status of the above proposal; and

(c) whether Government propose to amend the Constitution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) A proposal was received from the Government of Karnataka to amend Article 371 of the Constitution of India

to provide for region-wise reservation in employment and admission to educational institutions in Karnataka on the lines of provisions in Article 371D of the Constitution of India with respect to Andhra Pradesh. It was communicated to the Government of Karnataka that the proposal was not found feasible. Subsequently, the Chief Minister and leaders of all parties of both Houses of the Legislature of Karnataka submitted a Memorandum requesting the Government of India to reconsider the view taken by the Government of India.

(b) and (c) The aforesaid Memorandum is under examination.

Insurgent outfits in Manipur

827. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of insurgent outfits currently operating in Manipur;

(b) the approximate strength of each outfit; and

(c) the type of arms they are using and the nature of their operations and activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGHUPATHY): (a) As per reports, more than 20 militant outfits are active in Manipur. Following militant outfits have been declared as unlawful associations under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967:

(i) People's Liberation Army (PLA) and its political wing, the Revolutionary People's Front (RPF)

(ii) United National Liberation Front (UNLF)

(iii) People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK)

(iv) Kanglei Yawol Kanna Lup (KYKL)

(v) Kangleipak Communist Party (KCP)

(vi) Manipur People's Liberation Front (MPLF)

(b) The exact strength of various militant outfits is not known.

(c) Militants use automatic & semi-automatic weapons like AK-47 rifles, Bolt Action Rifles, Self Loaded Rifles (SLR), Light Machine Guns (LMG), Sten Carbines, Rocket launchers, 9mm Pistols, Revolvers, Stenguns, Hand grenades and Detonators, etc. Their activities include ambushes on security